




A for Arizona.

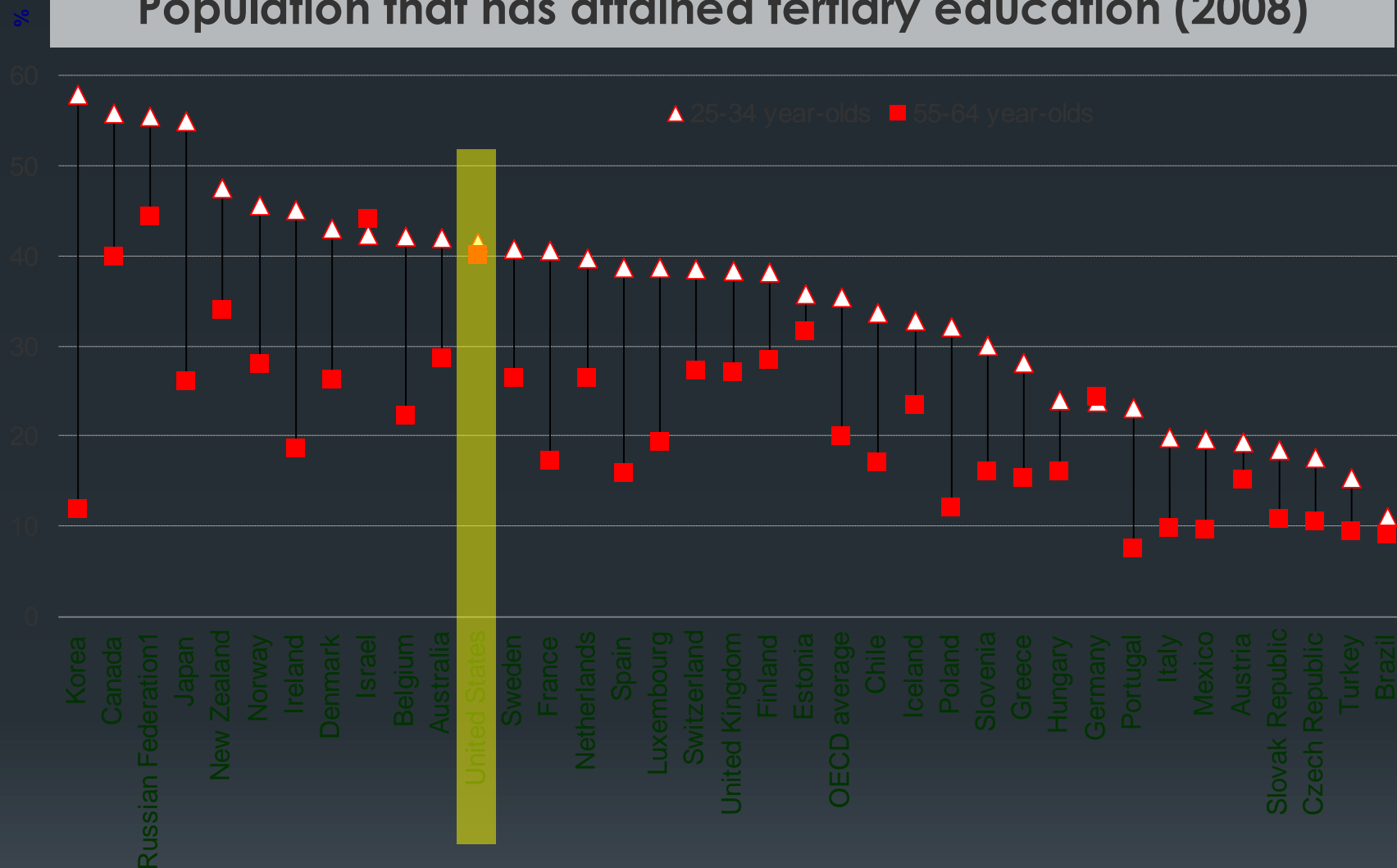
Sparking a Radical Acceleration of Education Excellence



The focus of all education policy in Arizona must be getting to A.

Our state is poised to be the first state where this decision is made...and made real.

Population that has attained tertiary education (2008)



1. Year of reference 2002.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the percentage of 25-34 year-olds who have attained tertiary education.

Source : OECD, Table A1.3a. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag2010).

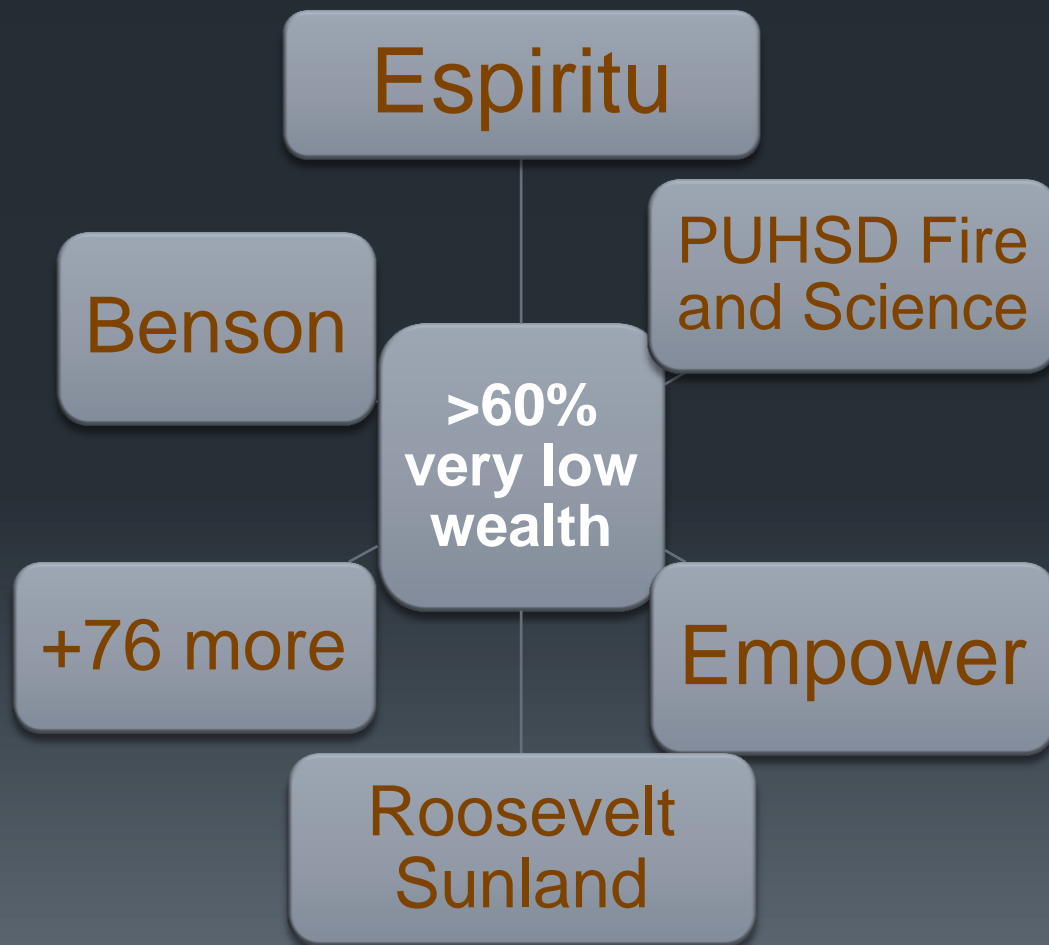
Statlink



“A”

Arizona's A is Meaningful and Achievable.

“A” schools are NOT the same as wealthy schools.





“A” SCHOOLS:

have a higher percentage of students who **meet or exceed standards** in state math, reading and writing tests.

graduate more of their students into next level education, and who then proceed to graduate from next level education or certification.


educate students who are **more likely to earn a living wage** or better.

educate students who are more likely to feel they are a **valuable and valued** part of the community.

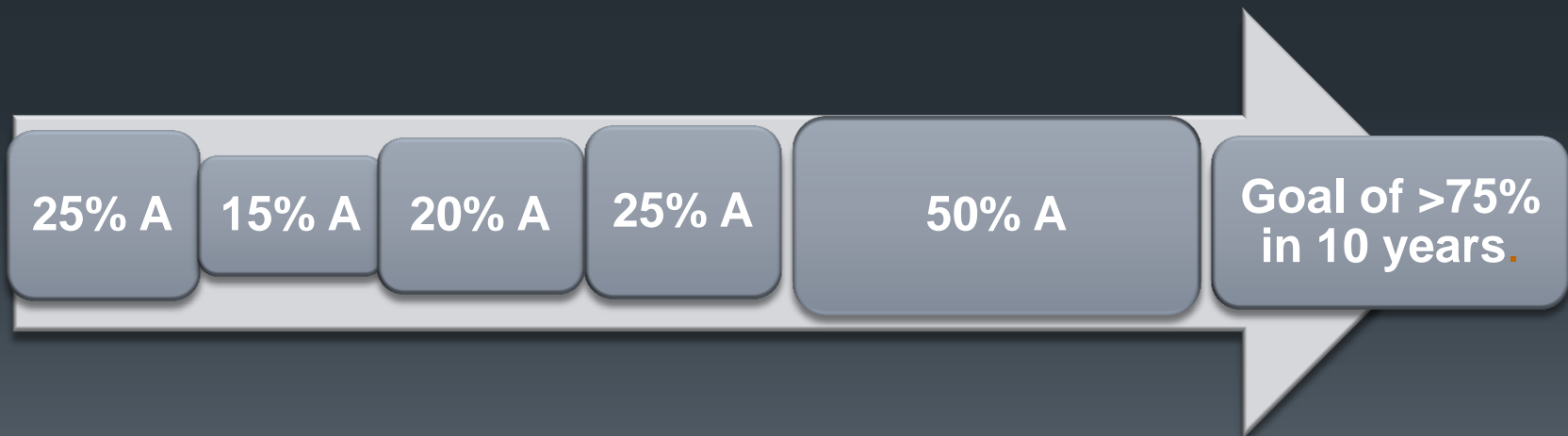
TODAY:

- 2022 schools
- 1.1 million students.
- 499 schools educating 250,000 students are “A”
- A grades reflect the current, low-challenge grading system.

25% “A”



Our focus must be to rapidly
increase the number of
“A” schools, even as the
challenge to earn an A rating
increases.





A shift in belief. A shift in approach.

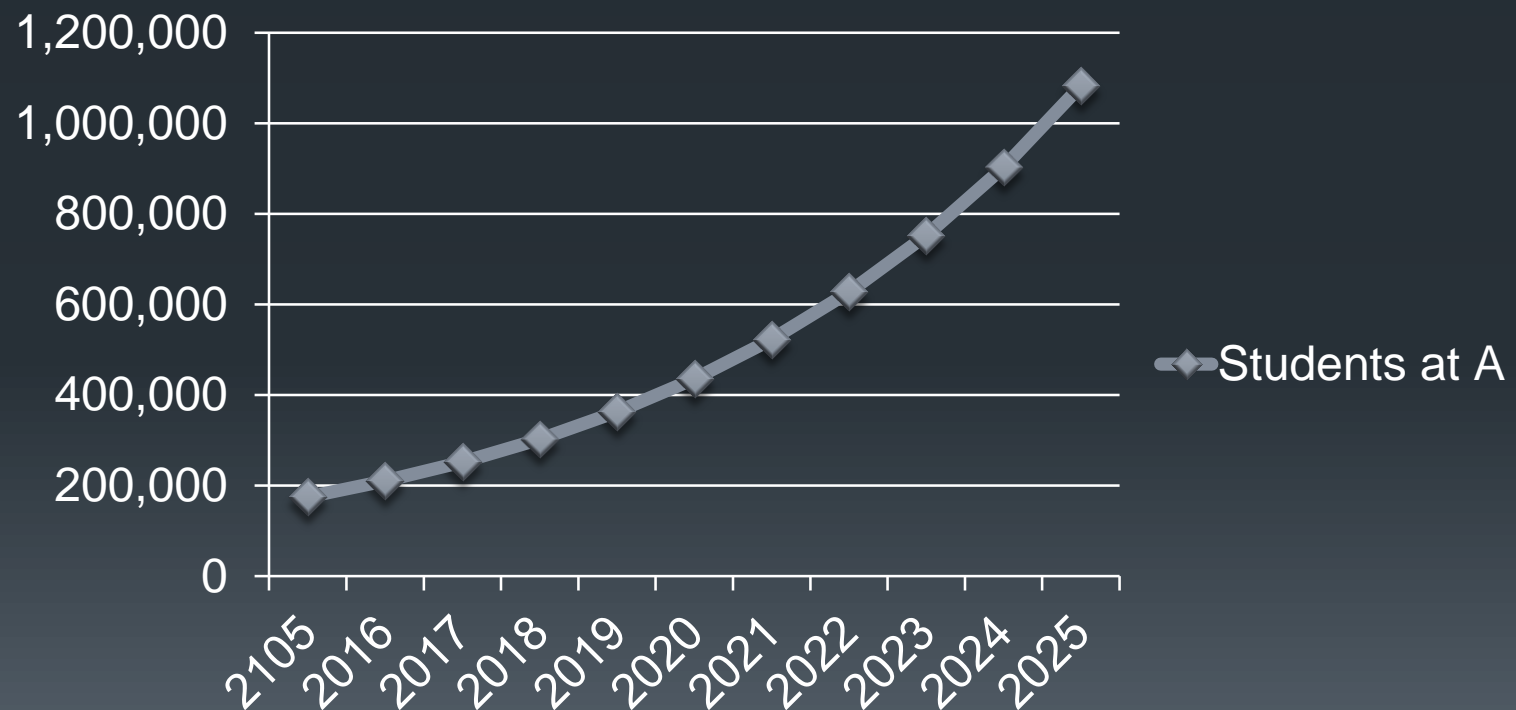
“To believe a thing
impossible makes it so.”

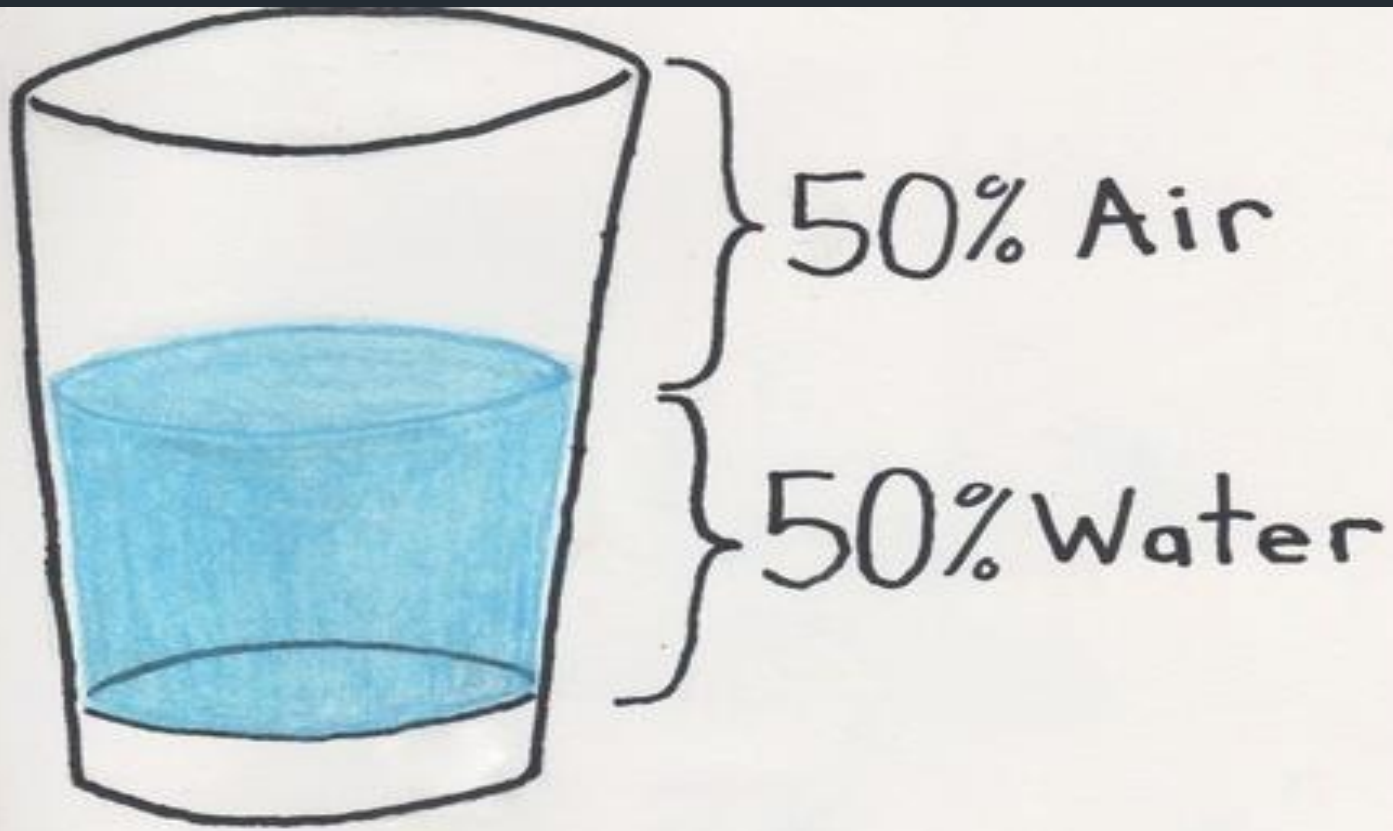
-Somebody French.

“They are excelling with
our kids. This gets fixed
right now.”

-Armando Ruiz, Founder of
Espiritu Schools, explaining his
reaction to Phoenix Collegiate
Academy opening at A.

Achieving 75% “A” is 20% Annual Gain.






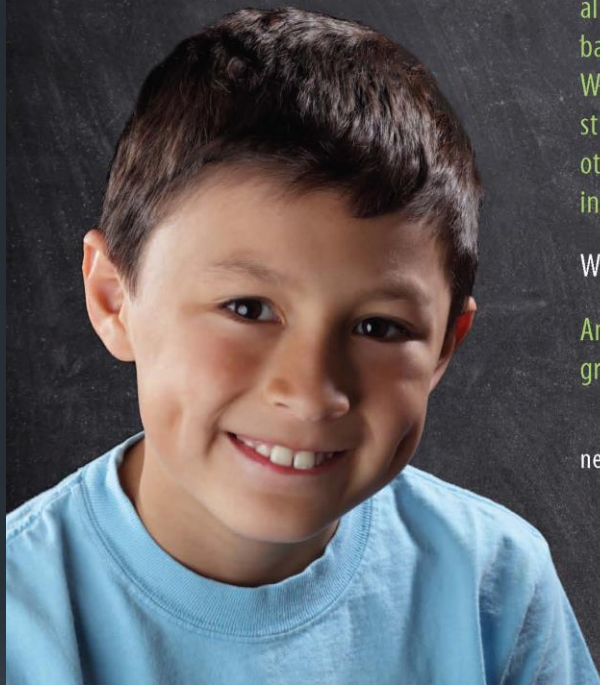
Technically,
The Glass is Completely Full.

We get to A three ways:

- Expanding or Replicating A Schools.
- Opening New A Schools: Local or Recruited.
- Improving Existing Schools.

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- ✓ Excellent schools are being recognized by the public with higher attendance, often resulting in wait lists.
 - ✓ Quality Schools Project resulted in 66% of participating schools gaining a letter grade or maintaining an A grade between 2011 and 2013.
 - ✓ ASU's "Ready for Rigor" program just paid out > 5 million dollars to educators in 60 schools where school-wide growth scores have increased an average of 10 percent for the first three years of the grant.
 - ✓ 40 percent of charter schools and 38% of district schools are either an A, A-Alt, or improved at least one letter grade from 2012 to 2013

education > poverty



We are transformative educators who believe all students, regardless of background, can succeed. We significantly impact student learning and inspire others to achieve excellence in urban education.

We are New Schools For Phoenix.

And we know education is greater than poverty.

newschoolsforphoenix.org



ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN URBAN EDUCATION



Chicana Por La Causa, Inc.



PHOENIXIDA



THE INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF PHOENIX



Arizona
Charter Schools
Association




We delay our growth to “A” by:

- Ignoring success.
- Allowing C,D, or F schools to expand or replicate.
- Allowing C,D, or F systems to build new schools.

We accelerate our growth to “A” by:

- Providing financial incentives for A performance
- Providing resources that allow A schools and systems to sustain their excellence and/ or expand.
- Ensuring very high quality teacher and innovator “pipelines”



We get to “A” by knowing it is possible and making that our work.




➤ **high expectation**...cultural shift

➤ **talented teachers**... including those who will lead, create and transform schools.

➤ **strong policy**... that supports and rewards A schools


➤ **sufficient and targeted funding**... to reflect increased, equitable and targeted student funding.

➤ **measurable strategies**...and regular reporting.



Who is actively pursuing or supporting this “A” work in AZ?

- AZ Teachers in Excelling Schools
- AZ Board of Regents
- AZ State Board of Education
- Governor’s P-20 Council
- AZ State Board for Charter Schools
- Expect More Arizona
- Chicanos Por La Causa
- AZ Charter Schools Association
- iTeachAZ at ASU
- Teach for America Phoenix
- EdTech Venture Funds
- Raza Development Fund
- Helios Foundation
- Rodel Foundation
- Center for the Future of Arizona
- Stand for Children
- Science Foundation AZ
- Arizona Community Foundation
- ABEC
- Many others...



Arizona may be the MOST likely place for a rapid transformation to occur. Just a few reasons...

- Consistent reform leadership from Hispanic organizations.
- High quality teacher programs and a growing number of alumni from these programs.
- AMAZING cadre of teachers who choose to make AZ their home, or return, and work in schools, ed tech, ed policy
- Laws and policies that allow schools to make instructional and personnel changes.
- Current work in education-focused organizations.
- ASU's example of rapid transformation – based on decades of focus.
- Education and Innovation Venture Funding.
- We are a national hub for Ed Tech.



A for Arizona.

Define the goal.

Focus state policies.

Measure progress, revise.

Don't quit.